

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 9, 2009

SWAC Members

Mark Glazer, Chair	Susan Filocco	Kurt Osuch
David Frank, Vice Chair	Marcia Harrington	Steve Sprague
Leslie Alexander	Paula Jenson	Ed Violette
Sara Ducey	Marcia Marks	

Absent: S. Findley, O. Hall, E. Lee, L. Levine, C. Simoneau

County Staff

Guests

Godfrey Ampadu, DSWs	Peter Hartwell, Covanta
Angela Jordan, DSWs	Dick Hill, DAFIG Chair
Joe LaDana, DSWs	Luke Fedders, resident

The regular meeting of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) was called to order by the Chair at 9:00 a.m. on May 9, 2009, in the conference room at the Resource Recovery Facility in Dickerson, MD.

The Chair welcomed everyone at the meeting, and introductions were made.

OLD BUSINESS

Meeting Minutes – The minutes from March 17, 2009 were approved as amended.

Subcommittee/Ad Hoc Group Reports – The School Recycling subcommittee met to get acquainted with Montgomery County Public Schools' new Environmental Specialist, Agustin Diaz. Ms. Harrington and Mr. Sprague gave an overview of the meeting. They explained what the County required and expected from schools, as well as what the committee would like to see implemented. The committee anticipated that Mr. Diaz would have extensive knowledge on recycling, since he came from DEP, so the expectations of the group were not met. Joe Lavorgna briefly attended the Recycling Committee meeting. He stated that there would be good news coming to the committee at June's SWAC meeting. Mr. Lavorgna stated that 90 schools achieved a recycling rate of 36 percent, which is the goal of MCPS, though the County desires a rate of 50 percent.

Mr. Pultyniewicz reported that the three schools that failed County evaluations have now passed.

DAFIG Liaison Report -- Mr. Violette, SWAC's DAFIG representative, reported that the members of DAFIG discussed the introduction of Bill 21-09, which has been introduced

by Councilman George Leventhal. The Bill was created to abolish a number of CE boards, with DAFIG being on the list to be eliminated. There is an idea of incorporating DAFIG's activities and responsibilities with those of SWAC. The DAFIG membership drafted a letter to be sent to Councilman Leventhal and the County Council addressing their strong opposition to the idea of merging both committees.

MAJOR PROGRAM TOPIC

Messrs. LaDana and Ampadu highlighted various features of the Montgomery County Resource Recovery and Compost Facilities.

A tour of both facilities commenced at the conclusion of the meeting at 11:25 am.

NEW BUSINESS

SWAC's Position on Bill 21-09 - The chair explained the goal of Bill 21-09, County Executive Boards, Committees, and Commissions - Amendments and Resolution to Repeal the Dickerson Area Facilities Implementation Group. Councilman Leventhal is the sponsor of this bill, which attempts to downsize the number of CE boards, committees, and commissions. The bill calls for the dissolution of DAFIG, with SWAC assuming its duties. The membership discussed few pros and a number of cons, if the merging of SWAC and DAFIG became a reality. The consensus of the membership is that SWAC and DAFIG run on two different platforms with dissimilar focal points. SWAC's focus is solid waste, and DAFIG's focus is environmental monitoring; therefore, SWAC is strongly opposed to the integrating of the two committees.

There was a motion made (Harrington) and seconded (Marks) to empower the Chair to draft a letter to vehemently oppose the proposal of Councilman Leventhal to consolidate SWAC and DAFIG.

Food Service at Meetings - Ms. Filocco suggested discontinuing food service at SWAC meetings for cost savings. An analysis of food cost will be presented to the membership at June's meeting. The discussion was tabled.

Waste Reduction - Ms. Marks addressed the need for stronger education about waste reduction, and pondered a possible conflict of interest with generating energy from waste. Mr. Hartwell mentioned that there is a common goal for waste reduction in accordance with EPA standards. He added that energy is found in trash, and a lack would result in less energy to be tapped and used. The operation of the RRF is a more favorable option when compared to landfill use. Greenhouse gases are still created, but are drastically reduced. Any reduction is still a reduction. Mr. Hartwell did not feel there is a conflict of interest.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dick Hill, a member of DAFIG, mentioned that DAFIG conducts studies on air, milk, etc. He believes that evaporation ruptures are occurring at the RRF.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

ACRONYMS

CE	County Executive
DAFIG	Dickerson Area Facilities Implementation Group
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
MES	Maryland Environmental Service
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2008 ATTENDANCE														
	J A N	F E B	M A R	A P R	M A Y	J U N	J U L	A U G	S E P	O C T	N O V	D E C	Absences In Last 12 Months	
Abralind, Jessica		X	X	X	X	X							-1	
Alexander, Leslie		X	X		X	X				X			-3	
Findley, Steve			X	X	X	X				X	X			
Frank, David	X	X	X	X		X				X	X		-1	
Glazer, Mark	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X			
Guernica, Mimi	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X			
Hall, Odell	X		X		X	X				X	X		-2	
Harrington, Marcia	X	X	X	X	X	X				X			-1	
Jenson, Paula		X	X	X	X	X				X	X			
Lee, Ed		X	X	X	X	X					X		-1	
Levine, Lee	X	X	X			X				X	X		-2	
Marks, Marcia	X	X			X	X				X	X		-2	
McCarty, Sean	X	X		X	X						X		-3	
Simoneau, Craig	X	X	X	X	X					X	X		-1	
Sprague, Steve		X	X	X	X	X				X	X			
Violette, Ed				X	X	X				X	X			

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2009 ATTENDANCE														
	J A N	F E B	M A R	A P R	M A Y	J U N	J U L	A U G	S E P	O C T	N O V	D E C	Absences In Last 12 Months	
Alexander, Leslie		X			X								0	Waiver granted
Ducey, Sara					X								-1	
Findley, Steve	X	X	X										-1	
Filocco, Susan					X								-1	
Frank, David	X	X	X		X								-1	
Glazer, Mark	X	X	X		X									
Hall, Odell		X											-3	Feb/April '08 dropped off, still at 3 absences
Harrington, Marcia	X	X	X		X								-1	
Jenson, Paula		X	X		X								-1	
Lee, Ed	X	X	X										-2	
Levine, Lee	X	X	X										-2	April '08 dropped off
Marks, Marcia	X	X	X		X									April/May '08 dropped off
Osuch, Kurt			X		X									
Simoneau, Craig	X	X	X										-2	
Sprague, Steve	X	X	X		X									
Violette, Ed	X	X	X		X									